

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 00430 01 OF 04 071929Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 FEA-00

AF-06 NEA-09 EURE-00 BIB-01 IO-10 SAM-01 /115 W

----- 083176

P R 071916Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5642

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 PARIS 00430

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH INTERNAL POLITICAL SCENE -- DECEMBER

REF: A) PARIS 29418; B) PARIS 31015; C) PARIS 30570;

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 00430 01 OF 04 071929Z

D) PARIS 30302; E) PARIS 29317; F) PARIS 24467;

G) PARIS 31250

SUMMARY: MAJOR EVENTS IN FOREIGN POLICY ECLIPSED AND INFLUENCED THE FRENCH INTERNAL SCENE IN DECEMBER. FRENCHMEN GENERALLY APPEAR TO APPROVE GISCARD'S ROLE IN LAST MONTH'S THREE SUMMIT CONFERENCES AND HIS GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF AGGRESSIVELY SEEKING ORDERS FOR FRENCH INDUSTRY IN THE OIL-PRODUCING STATES. THE INFLATION RATE MAY HAVE EASED SLIGHTLY, AND THE TRADE BALANCE, TEMPORARILY AT LEAST, LOOKED A LITTLE HEALTHIER. LABOR TROUBLES WERE FEW. PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC SEIZED CONTROL OF THE GAULLIST PARTY. A LEFT-SPONSORED ATTEMPT TO PASS A MOTION OF CENSURE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT FAILED AS EXPECTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. GISCARD IS SAID TO BE CONTEMPLATING A CABINET RESHUFFLE' BUT AT MONTH'S END, HE COULD LOOK BACK UPON A REASONABLY SATISFACTORY DECEMBER PERFORMANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH DIPLOMACY DOMINATES EVENTS: IN CONTRAST TO NOVEMBER'S LABOR TURMOILS AND BAD ECONOMIC NEWS (REF A), DECEMBER PROVED TO BE A RELATIVELY TRANQUIL MONTH IN FRENCH POLITICS. UNUSUALLY MILD WEATHER AND A DOSE OF CHRISTMAS SPIRIT HELPED EASE DOMESTIC TENSIONS. MORE IMPORTANT, PERHAPS, WAS THE SEEMING APPROVAL WITH WHICH FRENCHMEN WATCHED THEIR PRESIDENT EXERCISE SUMMIT DIPLOMACY. AS GISCARD HOSTED BREZHNEV AT RAMBOUILLET, PRESIDED OVER THE PARIS CONFERENCE OF EC CHIEFS OF GOVERNMENT, AND TALKED WITH PRESIDENT FORD IN MARTINIQUE, FRANCE APPEARED ONCE AGAIN TO BE PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE IN THE ORDERING OF THE WORLD. SUCH SUCCESSFUL SUMMITY WAS ENOUGH TO COOL THE CRITICISM OF EVEN THE MOST ARDENT GAULLISTS, ONLY A FEW OF WHOM RAISED THEIR VOICES IN PROTEST OVER THE FRANCO-AMERICAN GOODWILL RADIATING FROM THE CARIBBEAN. MOREOVER, MEMBERS OF GISCARD'S GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN MAKING A "HAJJ", ORDER-BOOKS IN HAND, TO THE NEWLY-RICH OIL PRODUCING STATES. MOST RECENTLY, PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC RETURNED FROM TEHRAN DECEMBER 23 WITH SEVEN BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF POTENTIAL ORDERS FOR A SUBWAY SYSTEM FOR TEHRAN, TRAINS, SHIPS, NUCLEAR-ENERGY PLANTS, AN AUTOMOBILE FACTORY,

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 00430 01 OF 04 071929Z

THE FRENCH COLOR TELEVISION PROCESS (SECAM) AND OTHER EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES. TOGETHER WITH EARLIER DEALS WITH ALGERIA, IRAQ, AND EGYPT, CHIRAC'S IRANIAN SELLING EXPEDITION PRESENTED AN IMAGE OF A GOVERNMENT AGGRESSIVELY SEEKING TO OFFSET THE INCREASED OIL IMPORTATION BILL BY SECURING BIG FOREIGN ORDERS FOR FRENCH INDUSTRY (AND AT THE SAME TIME, PROTECTING FRENCH JOBS).

2. GOOD ECONOMIC NEWS: GISCARD COULD ALSO POINT TO A COUPLE OF STATISTICS RELEASED IN DECEMBER AS SUGGESTING THAT FRANCE IS MAKING SOME PROGRESS IN TACKLING ITS INFLATION AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS. THE TRADE DEFICIT DROPPED TO A SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED 218 MILLION FRANCS IN NOVEMBER, A CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT OVER THE OCTOBER DEFICIT OF 1.5 BILLION. THE OVERALL TRADE DEFICIT FOR THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1974 STANDS AT 17.1 BILLION FRANCS, PROMISING A TOTAL 1974 DEFICIT WELL BELOW THE 22 BILLION FORECAST LAST SUMMER (REF B). THE INFLATION RATE IN NOVEMBER LEVELED OFF SOMEWHAT TO 0.9 PERCENT, DOWN FROM OCTOBER'S 1.2 PERCENT (THE RATE OF INFLATION OVER THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS NOW STANDS AT 14.9 PERCENT).

3. GISCARD'S POPULARITY STABILIZES: IT REMAINS TO BE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 00430 02 OF 04 071935Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

FEAE-00 AF-06 NEA-09 BIB-01 IO-10 SAM-01 /115 W

----- 083233

P R 071916Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5643

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMCONSUL NICE  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG  
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 02 OF 04 PARIS 00430

SEEN WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT'S GOALS OF MAINTAINING  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT LEVELS WHILE CONTINUING  
TO FIGHT INFLATION THROUGH A TIGHT FISCAL POLICY AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 00430 02 OF 04 071935Z

A CREDIT SQUEEZE ARE BOTH REALIZABLE OVER THE LONG HAUL.  
BUSINESS SURVEYS SUGGEST THAT FRANCE'S ECONOMIC DOWNTURN  
IS CONTINUING. BUT DECEMBER'S DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY --  
MUCH OF IT ECONOMIC IN PURPOSE -- AND A FEW CAUTIOUSLY  
HOPEFUL STATISTICS SEEMED TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT IN THE  
PUBLIC OPINION POLLS. THE DOWNWARD SLIDE OF GISCARD'S  
POPULARITY APPEARED AT LEAST TEMPORARILY HALTED AS THE  
RESPECTED "IFOP" POLL PUBLISHED AT THE END OF THE MONTH  
SHOWED 48 PERCENT OF THOSE QUESTIONED TO BE SATISFIED  
WITH THE PRESIDENT'S PERFORMANCE -- THE SAME FIGURE  
REGISTERED IN NOVEMBER. ANOTHER POLL INDICATED 50  
PERCENT OF FRENCHMEN WERE CONFIDENT THAT GISCARD COULD  
SUCCESSFULLY HANDLE A CRISIS COMPARABLE TO THAT OF  
MAY, 1968 -- ONLY 42 PERCENT EXPRESSED THE SAME  
CONFIDENCE IN NOVEMBER.

4. LABOR SCENE QUIET: IN CONTRAST TO NOVEMBER'S  
WILDCAT STRIKES, THE LABOR SCENE LAST MONTH WAS TRANQUIL.  
AN ON-AND-OFF STRIKE AT ORTF CONTINUED TO DISRUPT RADIO  
AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMING; THE GOVERNMENT HAS SO FAR  
REFUSED TO BUDGE FROM ITS REORGANIZATION SCHEME, WHICH  
IS COSTING OVER 200 EMPLOYEES THEIR JCBS. (AT THE  
BEGINNING OF JANUARY, ORTF WAS FORMALLY DISSOLVED INTO  
THREE AUTONOMOUS TELEVISION CHANNELS AND A SEPARATE  
RADIO NETWORK.) ALTHOUGH THE SIX-WEEK POSTAL STRIKE  
OFFICIALLY ENDED DECEMBER 2, MAIL SORTERS CONTINUED A  
WORK SLOW-DOWN DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS RUSH,  
SOME 19 MILLION PIECES OF PRE-STRIKE MAIL REMAINED  
UNDELIVERED (REF C). IN GENERAL, STABILITY ON THE  
LABOR FRONT REMAINS DEPENDENT ON THE RANK AND FILE'S

FEAR OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND ITS ABILITY TO CONTINUE  
EXTRACTING A SHARE OF RISING (THROUGH INFLATION) NOMINAL  
PROFITS.

5. CHIRAC TAKES HELM OF UDR: DECEMBER'S MOST DRAMATIC  
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT WAS PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC'S  
ELEGANT SEIZURE OF POWER IN THE GAULLIST (UDR) PARTY  
(REF D). ALTHOUGH THE "MAJORITY OF THE MAJORITY" --  
WITH 172 SEATS IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY -- THE UDR HAS  
DRIFTED LEADERLESS SINCE CHABAN-DELMAS' CRUSHING DEFEAT  
IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS LAST MAY. ONE MIGHT SAY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 00430 02 OF 04 071935Z

THE UDR HAD LOST A NATION AND HAD NOT FOUND A ROLE;  
SOME OF ITS SUPPORTERS (THOUGH FEW DEPUTIES) HAVE  
BROKEN AWAY TO OTHER PARTIES IN THE MAJORITY, OTHERS  
HAVE BEEN ATTRACTED TO THE MAVERICK MICHEL JOBERT (REF  
E), AND A FEW ARE SEEKING TO JOIN THE UNION OF THE LEFT.  
AT THE UDR NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 14-15,  
CHIRAC QUICKLY ASSUMED POWER BY ENGINEERING HIS OWN  
ELECTION AS PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL AFTER PERSUADING  
ALEXANDRE SANGUINETTI TO STEP DOWN. THE ISOLATED  
GAULLIST BARONS ARE ATTEMPTING TO REGROUP AROUND  
OLIVIER GUICHARD, BUT FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST, CHIRAC  
IS FIRMLY HOLDING THE HELM. HIS MANEUVER -- EXECUTED  
WHILE GISCARD WAS IN MARTINIQUE BUT WITH THE PRESIDENT'S  
PRIOR APPROVAL -- STRENGTHENS THE UDR'S ROLE IN THE  
MAJORITY AND CHIRAC'S ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT. THE  
EFFECT ON GOVERNMENT POLICY OF A STRENGTHENED AND  
BOLDLY-LED GAULLIST PARTY REMAINS TO BE SEEN, BUT THE  
IMMEDIATE RESULT OF CHIRAC'S COUP IS TO MAKE THE  
PRIME MINISTER THE STRONG MAN OF THE GOVERNMENT, RIValed  
ONLY BY MICHEL PONIATOWSKI. CHIRAC IS ONLY 42 AND HAS  
PRESIDENTIAL AMBITIONS; THOSE AMBITIONS CAN ONLY BE  
SERVED BY HAVING A STRONG AND UNIFIED PARTY BEHIND HIM.  
ONE LOSER IN ALL THESE MANEUVERS WOULD SEEM TO BE  
JUSTICE MINISTER JEAN LECANUET, WHOSE HOPES TO INCREASE  
THE RANKS OF HIS CENTER-REFORMER GROUP WITH DISSIDENT  
GAULLISTS APPEAR TO BE CHECKED.

6. CENSURE MOTION DEFEATED AS PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS:  
PARLIAMENT ENDED ITS FALL SESSION DECEMBER 20, WITH  
THE GOVERNMENT VICTORIOUS ON ALL FRONTS. THE  
CONTROVERSIAL ABORTION MEASURE, WHICH HAD PASSED THE  
ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 29 (REF A), CLEARED THE SENATE IN  
SLIGHTLY AMENDED FORM IN DECEMBER. BUT A GROUP OF 81  
DEPUTIES HAVE CHALLENGED THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE  
LAW, WHICH PERMITS ABORTIONS UP TO THE TENTH WEEK OF  
PREGNANCY; ACCORDING TO THE OPPONENTS' SPOKESMAN'  
GAULLIST FORMER MINISTER JEAN FOYER, THE LAW "CONSECRATES

THE RIGHT TO KILL". THE ISSUE IS BEFORE THE NINE-MAN  
CONSTITUTIONAL COUNCIL, WHICH SHOULD RENDER ITS DECISION  
BEFORE JANUARY 20. THE ASSEMBLY SESSION CLOSED WITH

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PARIS 00430 02 OF 04 071935Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 00430 03 OF 04 071942Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

FEAE-00 AF-06 NEA-09 BIB-01 IO-10 SAM-01 /115 W

----- 083320

P R 071916Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5644

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 03 OF 04 PARIS 00430

THE RESOUNDING DEFEAT OF A LEFT-SPONSORED MOTION OF  
CENSURE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. THE SOCIALISTS HAD  
INTRODUCED THE MOTION, WHICH THEY KNEW HAD NO HOPE OF  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 00430 03 OF 04 071942Z

PASSAGE, AS A GESTURE OF MILITANCY TO COUNTER COMMUNIST  
QUESTIONING OF SOCIALIST GOOD FAITH IN MAINTAINING THE  
UNION OF THE LEFT (REF F). SOCIALIST LEADER FRANCOIS  
MITTERRAND'S RATHER DISPIRITED ASSEMBLY SPEECH WAS  
TEPIDLY GREETED BY HIS COMMUNIST ALLIES, WHILE CHIRAC  
RALLIED THE MAJORITY (DESPITE BRUISED FEELINGS AMONG  
SOME GAULLISTS OVER CHIRAC'S ELECTION AS PARTY  
SECRETARY GENERAL) WITH A STRONG IF UNINSPIRED SPEECH  
ATTACKING THE LEFT'S COMMON PROGRAM AND DEFENDING THE  
GOVERNMENT'S RECORD. NO MEMBER OF THE MAJORITY BROKE  
RANKS TO JOIN THE LEFT, AND THE MOTION RECEIVED ONLY  
183 OF THE 246 VOTES NECESSARY TO BRING DOWN THE  
GOVERNMENT.

7. LEFT REMAINS DIVIDED: BOTH THE PCF AND THE PS HAVE  
BEGUN PREPARING THEMSELVES FOR THE SOCIALIST PARTY  
CONGRESS AT PAU' JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 2. FRANCOIS  
MITTERRAND'S TOTAL PROCEDURAL CONTROL OF HIS PARTY HAS  
BEEN SEEN AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL PROCESS,  
WITH MITTERRAND-BACKED MOTIONS ROUTINELY WINNING BY  
UNUSUALLY LARGE MARGINS. THE PCF, BASING ITS ACTIONS  
ON A SERIES OF ARTICLES BY ITS SECRETARY GENERAL,  
GEORGES MARCHAIS, BEGAN ATTEMPTS TO REDEFINE THE COMMON  
PROGRAM OF THE LEFT IN TERMS WHICH WOULD PUBLICLY COMMIT  
THE PS TO REFUSE A CALL TO POWER FROM A GISCARD  
GOVERNMENT AND WHICH WOULD ALSO HAVE THE IMPLICIT  
EFFECT OF LIMITING BOTH PARTNERS TO ENTRY INTO POWER  
TO A TIME WHEN THEY COULD ASSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
COMMON PROGRAM IN ITS ENTIRETY. PS OFFICIALS HAVE  
PUBLICLY BEEN RATHER RESTRAINED IN THEIR COMMENTS, AND  
HAVE REFUSED TO ENGAGE IN A POLEMIC WITH THE PC. TO  
THE EXTENT THAT PC ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE PS CONTINUE  
TO BE MET WITH NO HEAD-ON CONFRONTATION BY THE PS, THE  
CREDIBILITY OF THE LEFT AS A POLITICAL ALTERNATIVE  
TO CHIRAC'S GOVERNMENT WILL BE UNDERMINED. IT IS ONLY  
IN THE TWO PARTIES' REACTIONS TO THE PAU CONGRESS THAT  
WE WILL SEE TO WHAT EXTENT THE UNITED LEFT CAN REMAIN

VIABLE.

8. POSSIBLE CABINET CHANGES: RUMORS ARE RIFE IN PARIS  
OF AN IMPENDING CABINET SHUFFLE -- NOT A MAJOR  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 00430 03 OF 04 071942Z

GOVERNMENTAL OVERHAUL, BUT THE CHANGE OF A FEW PORT-FOLIOS WITH PERHAPS THE CREATION OF AN ADDITIONAL SECRETARY OF STATE OR TWO. WE HAVE NO REAL EVIDENCE OF GISCARD'S INTENTIONS, BUT THE RUMORS ARE SUGGESTIVE OF THE CHANGING MAGNITUDE OF THE STARS IN THE FRENCH POLITICAL CONSTELLATION. MOST RUMORS CENTER AROUND THE EXPECTED DEPARTURE OF THREE CABINET MEMBERS WHO LACK A POLITICAL CONSTITUENCY OF THEIR OWN. FOREIGN MINISTER JEAN SAUVAGNARGUES IS SAID TO BE ON THE WAY OUT; HIS HEALTH IS BAD, AND HIS PERFORMANCE REPORTEDLY HAS SATISFIED NEITHER GISCARD NOR THE QUAI PROFESSIONALS. HE MAY BE GIVEN THE WASHINGTON EMBASSY AS A CONSOLATION. JACQUES SOUFFLET MAY ALSO BE EXPENDABLE; HIS LACK-LUSTER WORK AS DEFENSE MINISTER HAS EARNED HIM CRITICISM BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE ARMY. LIKE SAUVAGNARGUES, HE IS SAID TO BE SUFFERING FROM POOR HEALTH. LACKING A POLITICAL POWER BASE, HE MAY GIVE WAY TO A STRONGER PERSONALITY; GAULLIST BARON OLIVIER GUICHARD, FORMER PRIME MINISTER MESSMER, UDR DEPUTY JOEL LE THEULE HAVE BEEN RUMORED AS POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS. PIERRE LELONG' SECRETARY OF STATE FOR POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAY BE DROPPED AFTER HIS SOMEWHAT INEPT HANDLING OF THE RECENT POSTAL STRIKE. CHIRAC AND PONIATOWSKI REMAIN THE STRONG MEN OF THE GOVERNMENT. MINISTER OF HEALTH SIMONE VEIL HAS RISEN IN PUBLIC ESTEEM Owing TO HER GOOD WORK IN SHEPHERDING THE ABORTION BILL THROUGH PARLIAMENT; HER FACE RECENTLY ADORNED THE COVERS OF AT LEAST THREE FRENCH NEWSWEEKLIES. JEAN LECANUET, ALTHOUGH REPORTEDLY UNHAPPY AT SOME GOVERNMENT POLICIES, WILL PROBABLY REMAIN AS MINISTER OF JUSTICE, AT LEAST IN THE NEAR FUTURE. CHIRAC IS SAID TO BE DISSATISFIED WITH MINISTER OF INDUSTRY MICHEL D'ORNANO'S CAPACITY TO HANDLE WHAT PROBABLY IS THE GOVERNMENT'S MOST COMPLEX AND POLITICALLY SENSITIVE DEPARTMENT. THERE IS SOME TALK THAT JEAN-JACQUES SERVAN-SCHREIBER, WHO HAS REMAINED PERSONALLY CLOSE TO GISCARD DESPITE HIS ABRUPT DISMISSAL FROM THE GOVERNMENT ON JUNE 9 AS MINISTER OF REFORMS, WILL RETURN TO THE GOVERNMENT TO HEAD A NEWLY CREATED MINISTRY OF PLANNING. "PARIS MATCH", HOWEVER,

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PARIS 00430 03 OF 04 071942Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 00430 04 OF 04 071936Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

FEAE-00 AF-06 NEA-09 BIB-01 IO-10 SAM-01 /115 W

----- 083267

P R 071916Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5645

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 04 PARIS 00430

SAYS THAT J-J S-S WILL RUN FOR MAYOR OF NANCY IN 1975,  
WITH THE BLESSING OF GISCARD BUT AGAINST THE WISHES OF  
CHIRAC. J-J S-S, HOWEVER, IS HIMSELF SPREADING THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 00430 04 OF 04 071936Z

RUMOR THAT HE WILL BE THE NEXT PRIME MINISTER, A  
SPECULATION NO ONE IS TAKING SERIOUSLY.

9. GISCARD SPEAKS TO THE NATION: GISCARD ENDED 1974 WITH  
A BRIEF NEW YEAR'S EVE TELEVISION ADDRESS TO THE NATION  
(REF G). REFLECTING WITH SOME SATISFACTION ON HIS  
RECORD IN OFFICE, HE SAID HE HOPED 1975 WOULD BE A YEAR  
OF FRATERNITY FOR FRANCE. HE SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL  
ATTENTION THE DISADVANTAGED IN FRENCH SOCIETY, THUS  
SUGGESTING THAT IN 1975 HE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE  
CAUTIOUS SOCIAL REFORM PROGRAM WHICH MARKED HIS FIRST  
SEVEN MONTHS IN OFFICE. HE WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT FRANCE'S  
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WOULD BE SOLVED AND THAT FRANCE  
WOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT AND RESPONSIBLE  
ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS. THE EVENTS OF DECEMBER NO  
DOUBT FORTIFIED THIS OPTIMISM; 1974 -- A YEAR OF TRIAL  
FOR FRANCE AND FOR EUROPE -- CLOSED ON A SLIGHTLY  
RISING NOTE FOR THE FRENCH PRESIDENT. HOW FAR THIS  
CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM WILL CARRY GISCARD INTO THE NEW  
YEAR REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL LEADERS, POLITICAL PARTIES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PARIS00430  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750006-0779  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750172/aaaac1qy.tel  
**Line Count:** 523  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 10  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 PARIS 29418, 75 PARIS 31015, 75 PARIS 30570  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH INTERNAL POLITICAL SCENE -- DECEMBER  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, FR, (CHIRAC, JACQUES)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006